ITEMS: Crumb wrote Fred Burkhart an interesting letter in which he insulted me personally, because of certain aspects of CW that he disliked. That letter and my reply appear in Portable Fanzine, the second part of the Underground '76 issue. To get them, send $1 to Fred Burkhart, 2360 Rohs, Cincinnati, Ohio 45219. * It's not true that freelancers never make it. Bob Voytko, who works in a grocery store in Lorain, Ohio, tells me he just sold a panel to Hustler. Bob, a prolific cartoonist who probably talks as fast as he draws, does a cartoon newsletter called Playstocker. He's done 4 of 'em & you can probably get all for a buck pp from him at 2541 Jackson St., Lorain, Ohio 44052. His COMIX CONVENTION NEWSLETTER never made it. A bit of comic history at #1. Some of you guys who are trying to break into the game might enjoy writing to Bob & sharing some experiences. * Doug Bryson's second comic book is Lightning War and other Blitzkrieg Funnies and it sold out right away so you'll just have to scribble it on your list & watch for some ug collector to come along and give one up. * Brad Foster, a Texas cartoonist, is publishing a mag he calls Jabberwocky, which makes him a fellow Lewis Carroll fan. The lore of Alice is everywhere from "White Rabbit" (on the Airplane album, Surrealistic Pillow) to "Tiny Alice," a bizarre sex play by Edward Albee, which had a lot to do with making ACT the biggest repertory theater company in Northern California. ACT did Alice down at Stanford in 1965. Not that Jabberwocky even has anything to do with Alice, but the name made me happy and I thought I'd toss the other reference in.* And who's nostalgic about the sixties? I bet that a lot because I refer back to the early days of the ugs in my mentions of the new comix, but I think the seventies are more interesting in a lot of ways than the '60s; the comic art certainly is. The early stuff in BVO & the other tabs was pretty

Cochins Komiks 1 contains one 8 page story by Danny Bulanadi, "Xandra," a tale of a young woman whose parents are slain by the Captain of the Guards, leaving her to get revenge upon them. Bulanadi is a fine illustrator & draftsman. The pace is fast and the action is always seen through the eyes of the farmer and his family. 8½x11" Stapled. 50¢pp. From Gary Arlington, S. F. Comic Book Co., 3339 23rd St., San Francisco. * * Manuel Auad. * * Gary opened his store on April 22, 1968. At that time, he was into BC's & wanted to revive the spirit of the horror comics in titles like Eerie. Today, he has two stores on the same block in the Mission district, one which deals in back issues, the other in current comics. He does not carry a complete line of undergrounds anymore. "What sells, Gary?" "Superheroes," he said. 6/7

You ug buyers and readers may be interested in an evaluation of yourselves by Howie Chaykin: "..the people who buy undergrounds are interested basically in bad artwork, bad stories and sexual themes. A fairly large percentage of undergrounds are bought by fairly straight morons who need something to look at while they're thinking about getting laid." This brilliant remark appears along with many others in COMIC ART NEWS AND REVIEWS (Mar-April, '75). It's 50¢ from John Balge, Box 2005, Stn. B., Kitchener, Ontario, Canada. You need a copy just to read J. R. Cochran's story on what it's like to work for Warren Publishing Co. Says Cochran: "I think comic art is an art all by itself, almost entirely removed from illustration per se. To my way of thinking, the real comic artists are those people who combine the best elements of caricature, cinema and draftsmanship." Lots of stuff for you intellectuals to fight over in this one. On Chaykin's comment, I need only comment that I know most of the Marvel, DC, Warren, and other establishment artists buy and read ugs--does this mean these guys are "fairly straight morons?" Kind of confusing, isn't it? * * You can now get a SUPERHERO MERCHANDISE CATALOG fm Ivan Snyder, P. O. Box 777, Dover, New Jersey 07801. This will help you find out about all the toys and stuff that keep the factory comics alive. The mag consists of ad pages from the straight comics, and is rather like an ordinary Marvel in that respect, since the Spider-man reader continues to get less & less art and more and more ads.* * A letter from Lee Marrs says there is nothing to that rumor that has been going around that Star*Reach Productions is backed by Marvel. "Mike started & still runs Star*Reach Prod. from $ from his savings, his father & bank loans," says Lee. Her popular character Pudge will run as a two page spread in a new S. F. based mag, Women at Work sometime this year. * * * I stopped by Gary Arlington's store & he wants me to tell you all that the Bay Con is Sept 17-19 at the Sheraton-Palace Hotel in San Francisco. * * *

lame by anyone's standards. Anyway to paraphrase Scoop Nisker, a local newscaster, "If you don't like the art you see in the comix, draw some of your own."* To your right is a sample panel from Harv Pekar's American Splendor. It's a buck and a quarter from him at Box 18471, Cleveland Hts, Ohio 44118. Some interview information on him in my next issue. * From Amsterdam, TANTE LENY #21 (Apr, 1976) is ready. $3 pp from Evart Geradts, Hulshorststraat 269, Den Haag, Netherlands. New stories by Joost Swarte, Geradts, Peter Pontiac and a number of new Dutch artists. Most American readers will never see Amsterdam, but there is a film making the rounds which shows a lot of the city. Sensations is the name and it is a heavy sex film which was written and produced by Alberto Ferro in 1975. If you have an adult movie house in your town, that's where to ask about it.

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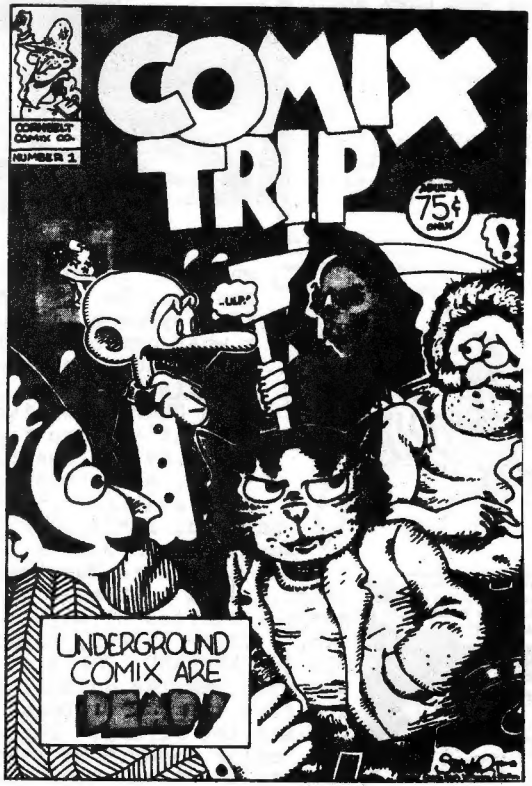

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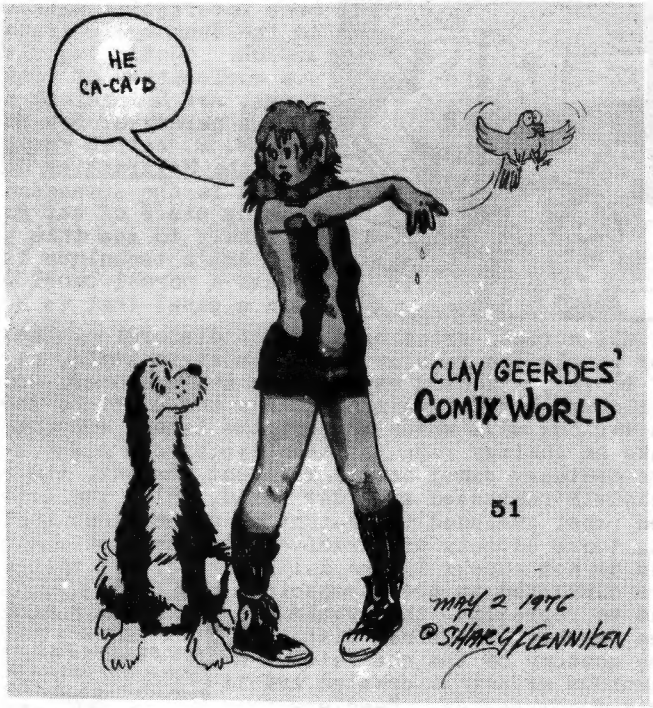

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